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Message Text

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42
ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 EA-06 L-02 SS-15 INR-07 SP-02

RSC-01 MC-01 /050 W
---------- 082781
R 291725Z JAN 75
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7737
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 01384

STADIS//////////////////////////////////

.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, XX
SUBJECT: MILITARY UTILITY AND POLICY VALUE OF MASTER DATA
EXCHANGE AGREEMENTS

REF: STATE 12376

1. SUMMARY: EMBASSY IS SATISFIED WITH DATA EXCHANGE AR-
RANGEMENTS AND CONSIDERS THEM AND THEIR PRODUCT USEFUL
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ELEMENTS IN THE US-UK POLITICAL-MILITARY RELATIONSHIP.

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2. WE HAVE A HOST OF DATA EXCHANGE AGREEMENTS WITH THE UNITED KINGDOM AT A VARIETY OF LEVELS AND ACROSS A BROAD SPECTRUM OF MUTUAL INTERESTS. MANY - BUT BY NO MEANS ALL - OF THE MILITARY UNDERTAKINGS OCCUR UNDER THE UMBRELLA-LIKE 1961 CARROL-STRONG INTELLIGENCE EXCHANGE AGREEMENT AND THE 1964 BASIC STANDARDIZATION AGREEMENT (ABCA) REACHED BY THE ARMIES OF THE US, UK, CANADA AND AUSTRALIA. IN EACH CASE, THE NUMBER OF US MILITARY PERSONNEL INVOLVED HERE IS MODEST (AND WE UNDERSTAND MANNING OF THE ARMY STANDARDIZATION GROUP IS TO BE REDUCED IN THE NEAR FUTURE) AND IMPACT ON US-UK RELATIONS IS POSITIVE. THE EMBASSY'S DEFENSE ATTACHE OFFICE ALSO MONITORS ROUTINELY AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE DEFENSE MAPPING AGENCY AND THE ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS AND THEIR BRITISH COUNTERPARTS.

3. WE CONSIDER THE IMPACT OF THESE MILITARY-TO-MILITARY ARRANGEMENTS ON BILATERAL RELATIONS TO BE QUITE FAVORABLE. MOREOVER, SUCH EXCHANGES HAVE FOSTERED A USEFUL REVERSE FLOW OF INFORMATION (E.G. THE U.S. HAS BENEFITED GREATLY FROM THE RECEIPT OF LARGE AMOUNTS OF BRITISH TANK TECHNO-LOGY) AND HAVE HELPED PROMOTE U.S. MILITARY SALES.

4. WE HAVE FOUND THE DATA EXCHANGE ARRAGEMENTS ENTIRELY SATISFACTORY IN EVERY RESPECT AND A POSITIVE SUPPORT TO THE OVERALL U.S. INTERESTS IN THE UK. EMBASSY CONTROL OF SUCH ARRANGEMENTS HAS BEEN NEITHER CLOSE NOR BY ANY MEANS COMPLETE, LARGELY AS A RESULT OF THE GENERAL INTI-MACY OF US-UK TIES. WE SUSPECT THAT TIGHTER CONTROLS WOULD BE DESIRABLE IN OTHER COUNTRIES (WHERE THE SPECIAL US-UK RELATIONSHIP DOES NOT EXIST).

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DATA, MILITARY INFORMATION PROGRAMS, TECHNOLOGICAL EXCHANGES, MILITARY AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LONDON01384
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750033-0086
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750111/aaaaajfp.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION PM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: 75 STATE 12376
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 APR 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <15 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MILITARY UTILITY AND POLICY VALUE OF MASTER DATA EXCHANGE AGREEMENTS
TAGS: MASS, XX, US, AS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006